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Message Text

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R 032301Z OCT 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

UNCLAS STATE 236672

E.O. 11652:N/A
- "
TAGS:OEXC, HA

SUBJECT:SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

1. MR. JULIAN EUELL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC SERVICE, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, ARRIVING PORT-AU-PRINCE 15 OCTOBER, 1500 HOURS, PANAM FLIGHT 431; DEPARTING 17 OCTOBER, 1320 HOURS, EASTERN FLIGHT 786. HOTEL RESERVATIONS REQUESTED.

2. PURPOSE IS TO EXTEND SMITHSONIAN INVITATION TO GOH TO PARTICIPATE IN 1976 FESTIVAL ON TERMS ROUGHLY LIKE 1975 PARTICIPATION. INVITATION REQUESTS 25 FOLK ARTISTS, ONE GUIDING FOLKLORIST, ONE TOUR ADMINISTRATOR (ENGLISH REQUIRED).

3. SIX CARIBBEAN AND SIX AFRICAN COUNTRIES BEING INVITED TO PERFORM TWO WEEKS EACH DURING TWELVE WEEK FESTIVAL WITH U.S. ARTISTS, THEN TOUR FOR TWO OR THREE WEEKS TO FOUR OR SIX CITIES JOINING THEIR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS. HAITI TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED JUNE 27 TO JULY 11 PAIRED WITH DAHOMEY, PERFORMING WITH AMERICAN
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FOLK ARTISTS CARRYING ON SAME CULTURAL TRADITIONS TO

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ILLUSTRATE CONTINUITY OF BLACK CULTURE OVER THREE CONTINENTS.

4. AGAIN, HAITI ASKED TO FUND PREPARING PARTICIPANTS FOR TOUR, COMPENSATING FOR LOST WORK-TIME, ROUNDTRIP AIRFARE TO WASHINGTON. SMITHSONIAN PAYS ALL DOMESTIC TRAVEL, BOARD, LODGING, TEN DOLLARS PER DAY POCKET MONEY EACH PARTICIPANT. TOUR CONTINGENT ON SMITHSONIAN BEING SATISFIED CLAIMS FOR LOST WORK-TIME ARE ADEQUATELY COMPENSATED.

5. EUELL WILL PRESENT OFFICIAL INVITATION TO APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL(S), PRESUMABLY MR. FRITZ JEAN-BAPTISTE. REQUEST USIS ARRANGE APPOINTMENT. SMITHSONIAN CONTRACT FOLKLORIST JAMES EARLY WILL VISIT LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER TO SELECT ACTUAL PARTICIPANTS IN COOPERATION WITH FOLKLORIST DESIGNATED BY GOH. SMITHSONIAN FESTIVAL DIRECTOR MAKES FINAL DECISION ON MAKE-UP HAITIAN GROUP.

6. EUELL AND DIASPORA STAFF HOPE FOR MEETING WITH JEAN SASSENE IN WASHINGTON AT WHICH TIME COPY OF INVITATION WILL BE GIVEN EMBASSY FOR TRANSMITTAL TO MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HIS OFFICE HAS BEEN ALERTED BY PHONE AND PRESUMABLY ALERTED HIM, BUT HE IS CURRENTLY IN HAITI. MEETING AWAITS HIS RETURN.

7. SMITHSONIAN MAILING COPY OF INVITATION, FESTIVAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION, EUELL AND EARLY BIO DATA TO USIS. WILL APPRECIATE POST GUIDANCE AND COOPERATION. KISSINGER

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